

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 ERDA-05 NSF-01 AID-05 CEA-01

CIAE-00 CIEP-01 COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02

INR-07 INT-05 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 SAM-01

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 FEA-01 SSO-00 NSCE-00

INRE-00 USIE-00 NAS-01 NRC-05 /091 R

DRAFTED BY OES/NET:MBKRATZER:LMT

APPROVED BY OES/NET:MBKRATZER

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EA/K - DANIEL O'DONOHUE

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 103101

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: TECH, ENRG, KS

SUBJECT: U.S.-ROK MEETING

REF: SEOUL 3003

1. WEEK OF MAY 17-21 EXTREMELY INCONVENIENT FOR U.S.-ROK MEETING, SINCE SCIENCE ATTACHE MEETING ORIGINALLY SCHEDULED FOR WEEK OF APRIL 26 HAS BEEN MOVED TO THAT DATE TO PERMIT PARTICIPATION BY ASSISTANT SECRETARY IRVING. WE RECOGNIZE THAT ROK WAS ORIGINALLY ADVISED THAT ATTACHE MEETING WOULD BE HELD WEEK OF APRIL 26. SCHEDULE WAS IN FACT CHANGED FOR REASON CITED CONSIDERABLY AFTER POSTPONEMENT OF U.S.-ROK MEETING. BEGIN FYI. VISIT OF BRAZILIAN MINISTER OF MINING AND ENERGY ALSO UNAVOIDABLY SCHEDULED FOR THAT WEEK.

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WE COULD NOT GIVE APPROPRIATE ATTENTION TO TWO HIGH-LEVEL

VISITORS ON SIMILAR SUBJECT MATTER WITH ATTACHE CONFERENCE
IN PROGRESS. END FYI.

2. DUE TO PRIOR COMMITMENTS, INCLUDING OVERSEAS TRIPS OF
BOTH SENIOR EA AND OES PERSONNEL WHOSE PARTICIPATION IN
DISCUSSIONS IS ESSENTIAL, SCHEDULING MEETING PRIOR TO WEEK
OF JUNE 14 IS INFEASIBLE. FOR EXAMPLE, AS EMBASSY IS AWARE,
U.S.-ROK SECURITY CONSULTATIVE MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR
WEEK OF MAY 24, AND NATIONAL ACADEMY OF SCIENCE-MOST

MEETING IS SCHEDULED FOR SEOUL WEEK OF MAY 31. KOREAN
EMBASSY SCIENCE ATTACHE LIM HAS JUST PROVIDED KRATZER
WITH FULL CALENDAR OF COMMITMENTS ON ROK SIDE, SHOWING
THAT IN VIEW OF U.S. UNAVAILABILITY DURING WEEK OF MAY 17,
EARLIEST CONVENIENT DATES FOR ROK WOULD BE WEEK OF JUNE 7.
HOWEVER, BOTH KRATZER AND SENIOR EA OFFICIALS HAVE
COMMITMENTS THAT WEEK. THUS, WE ARE NOW SUGGESTING WEEK
OF JUNE 14, WHICH IS ONLY ONE WEEK LATER THAN LIM'S PRO-
POSAL OF JUNE 7.

3. EMBASSY SHOULD CONSEQUENTLY NOW PROPOSE TO CHOE THAT
MEETING BE HELD JUNE 15-16, WITH REMAINDER OF WEEK AVAIL-
ABLE FOR CHOE'S APPOINTMENTS WITH USG SCIENCE OFFICIALS.

4. BEGIN FYI. AS EMBASSY IS AWARE, WE HAVE NO INCENTIVE
TO ACCELERATE MEETING AND DELAY POSES NO PROBLEM FOR US.
HOWEVER, WE DO WANT TO AVOID ANY SUSPICION THAT WE ARE
DRAGGING OUR FEET. THIS IS DEFINITELY NOT THE CASE, AS
INDICATED BY OUR EARLIER PROPOSAL THAT MEETING BE HELD ON
MAY 4 AND 5, AND CONFLUENCE OF PRIOR COMMITMENTS IS THE
ONLY REASON THAT WE MUST NOW PROPOSE WEEK OF JUNE 14.
END FYI.

5. WE HAVE IN MIND ARRANGING CALLS BY CHOE ON HEADS OR
SENIOR OFFICIALS IN VARIOUS SCIENCE AGENCIES. FIRM
APPOINTMENTS, OF COURSE, CANNOT BE MADE UNTIL TIMING OF
CHOE VISIT IS SETTLED, BUT WE SEE NO DIFFICULTY IN
ARRANGING SUCH CALLS WITH ERDA, NAS, NRC, USGS, AND NSF.
WE ALSO HAVE NO OBJECTION TO DISCUSSION OF TECHNICAL
COOPERATION IN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OUTSIDE FORMAL AGENDA,
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ON USUAL UNDERSTANDING THAT TECHNICAL COOPERATION DOES
NOT IMPLY CONCESSIONAL ASSISTANCE AT U.S. GOVERNMENT
EXPENSE. SISCO

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